

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 27, 2001
PARAMEDIC TASK FORCE MEETING
Holiday Inn
Burbank, CA

<u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u>	<u>EMSA STAFF PRESENT</u>	<u>ALTERNATES PRESENT</u>	<u>MEMBERS ABSENT</u>	<u>ALTERNATES ABSENT</u>
Debbie Becker	Roselyn Cope	Nancy Justin	Dean Anderson	Linda Anderson
Bill Bower	Bonnie Sinz	Mike Metro	Jim Holbrook	Nancy Eubanks
Bill Cody	Nancy Steiner		Sabina Imrie	Dick Mayberry
Carol Gunter	Connie Telford		Bill Koenig	David Nevins
Dave Magnino	Richard Watson		Jan Ogar	Frank Pratt
Kevin White			Kevin Rittger	
			Kathy Sher	<u>AUDIENCE PRESENT</u>
			Sam Stratton	
				Paula Rashi

I Review and Approval of January 29, 2000 Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved with no changes.

II Setting of the Agenda

Richard Watson will talk to the PTF members on changes to the EMS System Standards and Guidelines.

Carol Gunter requested that the PTF discuss the list of paramedics on the EMSA website.

III Establish a schedule for the Task Force

Nancy Steiner asked the PTF members to determine what the remaining priorities and objectives of the task force should be and establish a time frame for completing them. The Task Force members decided that they would look into the following areas: 1) CQI, 2) CE, 3) Field Internship and Clinical Issues, 4) Training Issues (requirements for teaching personnel) and 5) Purpose of accreditation process.

It was suggested that the tasks for each topic be defined. The PTF members felt it was helpful to have a document to work from on the issues. They felt that for the field internship and clinical issues, and the accreditation process they could work directly from the current regulations. Nancy Steiner said she would query other states regarding internships. Debbie Becker said that the paramedic program directors are putting together a position paper on field internships that would have some of the problems outlined. The CQI process will require new guidelines be written as well as regulation changes.

The PTF members estimated a goal of finishing the CQI process by the end of 2001, an additional 6 months for the field internship and training issues and 6 months for the accreditation issues and have a regulatory package ready by the end of 2002. Once all of the issues are completed, the EMS Authority will move forward with the regulation process. It was mentioned that the CQI Guidelines could be

distributed before that time so people could begin the process before the Guidelines actually go into regulation.

IV EMS System Standards and Guidelines

Richard Watson explained to the PTF that the EMS System Standards and Guidelines need to be revised as part of the NHTSA assessment. He explained that staff at the EMS Authority will put together a matrix of the components of the Guidelines to determine which Vision groups or other groups the components may fit in. The Vision groups will review the System Guidelines and report back to the EMS Authority by September 30. He also explained that the PTF may also want to review and make recommendations on the Guidelines. They will then go to the Vision Leadership Team and, if approved, out for public comment and then to the EMS Commission.

V List of Paramedics on EMSA Website

The PTF discussed that about half of the other states have information regarding paramedics on their websites available to the public. The EMS Authority has determined that access to paramedic information (name, license number and dates of license only) will be limited to the local EMS Agencies and they will decide if they will give access to their provider agencies.

VI Prehospital Performance Measurement System (formerly Continuous Quality Improvement).

Carol Gunter introduced Paula Rashi who is the QI Coordinator for LA County EMS Agency.

-Review draft of proposed changes to the CQI portion of the paramedic regulations.

Bonnie Sinz distributed draft regulations of EMS Performance Measurement System based on the comments received at the previous meeting and briefly explained the changes made.

Section 100136 (EMS Performance Measurement System)

Title and Definition

The PTF members discussed various titles for the CQI process and agreed that it should be "EMS Performance Measurement System" (EMS-PMS) because that most clearly identified that the process is a measurement of an EMS system. It was also suggested that the word ongoing be used in the definition for EMS-PMS to emphasize that it is an ongoing process. Other changes made will be included in the next draft of the EMS-PMS regulations for the next meeting.

Indicators

Based on discussion on the EMS-PMS indicators, #4 Data Collection, was changed to Documentation and, #5 Data Analysis/Evaluation/Outcomes, was changed to Clinical Care.

Section 100172 (Prehospital Performance Process changed to Performance Measurement System)

Added a new subsection (a) which states, "The authority shall include in its annual Strategic Plan ongoing support for a system-wide Emergency Medical Services Performance Measurement System" and enumber the remaining sections.

Added to (b)(1) "the local EMS agency shall: As an integral partner, develop and coordinate a system-wide EMS-PMS...." The authority will check with OAL regarding the language "as an integral partner" to see if it would be acceptable. Also the period of time for review of the EMSPMS was changed from no less than every 5 years to "...no more than every 5 years."

Section (3)(b) and (c) were moved under other sections that refer to service providers.

Other changes will be included in the next draft of the EMS-PMS regulations for the next meeting.

Section 100173. Paramedic Service Provider

There was considerable discussion regarding the length of time between reviews of provider's EMSPMS. Some members felt that every 5 years was too long between reviews by the local EMS Agencies. Others felt because there will be an annual report submitted by the providers to the local EMS Agency and that the local EMS Agencies have the option of reviewing more often if necessary that at least every 5 years is sufficient. Bonnie Sinz will check with the local EMS Agencies to see what they are currently doing and check with other accrediting bodies to see what their standards are. This item will be discussed further at the next meeting.

Section (4) was revised to read "As an integral partner, develop and implement an agency specific EMSPMS, as defined in Section 100136..." and "...and reviewed no more than every 5 years" to be consistent with Section 100172.

Also, Section (4)(C) was changed to read "...the employer and/or the medical director may create a specific and targeted program of remediation..."

Section 100174. Paramedic Base Hospital.

Section (13)(e) was added to this section to be consistent with Section 100173.

Bonnie Sinz will begin to prepare the "Guidelines" that will be incorporated by reference in these regulations for the PTF to review at the next meeting.

VII Schedule Next Meeting

The next meeting will be scheduled for March 19, 2001 in Sacramento.

VIII Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.